

ber, 1944. For the next three years it was very plentiful, then in 1948 there appeared to be a big decrease—the season in 1948 was a very late one.

During the period of the rapid increase I had introduced water couch (*Paspalum distichum*) into the main swamp and this may have had some bearing on it. The snail feeds freely on this grass which grows up through the water, and when the snail is plentiful it may be seen in hundreds attached to the shoots. At other times it floats around with the shell hanging down, the opening flush with the water surface. At such times the "sip sip" sound of countless snails is quite audible. The ideal habitat for the snail in this district is a rich peaty swamp completely cleared and carrying water couch. Birds do not seem to favour the snail for food as these swamps carry a big bird population, ranging from a variety of water-fowl, waders, herons, ibis, etc., to Magpie-Larks. Yet the snail is evidently spread either by birds or farm stock (cattle and sheep). This might be done through the adherence of mud to the feet of the animals.

—ANGUS ROBINSON, "Yanjetee," Coolup.

**Land-birds of Garden Island.**—In November 1948 I made a five-day collecting trip on Garden Island on behalf of the Western Australian Museum. Eighteen skins were collected and two new records were made for the island. Dr. D. L. Serventy has in *The Emu*, vol. 37, 1938, p. 267, enumerated all the birds recorded for the island up to that date, and Mr. E. H. Sedgwick added others in *The Emu*, vol. 40, 1940, p. 130. In the following list the new additions are marked with an asterisk:—

I met with 16 species of land-birds: Indian Turtledove (*Streptopelia chinensis*). Senegal Turtledove (*S. senegalensis*)—both species occur in quite appreciable numbers. Banded Plover (*Zonifer tricolor*)\*—a group of about eight on the beach near the homestead. Kestrel (*Falco cenchroides*). Golden Bronze Cuckoo (*Chalcites lucidus*)\*—one specimen was seen; it was not calling. Welcome Swallow (*Hirundo neoxena*). Willy Wagtail (*Rhipidura tricolor*). Grey Fantail (*Rhipidura fuliginosa*). Golden Whistler (*Pachycephala pectoralis*)—fairly numerous. Western Warbler (*Gerygone fusca*). Silver-eye (*Zosterops australasica*)—undoubtedly the most numerous and widely distributed species on the island. Singing Honeyeater (*Meliphaga virescens*)—fairly numerous. Australian Pipit (*Anthus australis*)—only found at the south extremity of the island. Raven (*Corvus coronoides*). Grey Butcher-bird (*Craictiens torquatus*). Western Magpie (*Gymnorhina dorsalis*)—four birds seen near the homestead. Five species recorded by earlier observers were not met with by me (namely, Brush Bronzewing, Kookaburra, Sacred Kingfisher, Tree-martin and White-fronted Chat).

Tammar (*Maeropus eugenii*) were very plentiful in the thickets and would come within a couple of chains of the houses. I did not meet with any reptiles or amphibia.

—KEN BULLER, W.A. Museum, Perth,

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